



CITY OF INDIANAPOLIS DEPARTMENT OF

PUBLIC SAFETY

N E W S L E T T E R

VOLUME 3
#1
JAN 2015

SPECIAL DPS FOCUS AREA ISSUE

16th and Tibbs | 29th and MLK | 34th and Illinois
38th and Sherman | New York and Sherman | 42nd and Post



Data Driven Government. What does this mean?

Recently you have received emails and seen news stories on a philosophical shift regarding how we operate as a Department of Public Safety. The goal: to enhance the quality of life of all residents of Indianapolis. There is no doubt the issues we face as a community and a nation have been decades in the making. The task before us is great. Our city's future depends on our willingness to forge collaborations of government agencies (local, state, and federal) and for DPS to build or strengthen relationships with social service providers and funders, along with the faith-based community.

To be clear, this process did not begin overnight. It began with getting our budgets under control; listening to all employees and community members regarding the issues facing our city; and working together through efficiency teams (inclusive of community, unions, employees, and citizens) to ensure we are as efficient and effective as possible. Information gained was used to establish goals and objectives to chart our future, while administrative reviews introduced accountability to government. All these steps were important to ensure that budgets were balanced, departments were moving forward, employees were able to receive well-deserved raises and a variety of lingering, some systemic, issues were addressed.

Let me be clear, this success is due to your dedication and support--the work of the finest public safety professionals in America.

(continued page 2)

“Let me be clear, this success is due to your dedication and support -- the work of the finest public safety professionals in America.”

— Director Troy Riggs

Have a question, suggestion or comment to share with Director Riggs or the Department? Please e-mail it to us at:

dps@indy.gov



Data-Driven Government: What Does This Mean?

Let me take a moment and review some of the steps that have been taken:

The beginning:

When I arrived and started discussing continuous business improvement cycles, there were two purposes in mind:

1. Be as efficient and effective as possible with our allocated resources
2. Begin the arduous task of instituting accountability in government

Current/Operational stage:

The continuous improvement cycle allows us to set and achieve goals and objectives, host efficiency teams that improved services to our residents and guest, while instituting accountability for our actions as the Department of Public Safety and its eight divisions. As a result, DPS is making tremendous strides operationally, administratively, and financially.

2015 and beyond:

Our goal is to lead the nation in data-driven government. Our data-driven approach will continue to build upon our relationships, improved work, and partnerships. Long-term success in reducing crime, reducing the fear of crime, and enhancing quality of life requires us to deal with the systemic issues facing our city, state, and nation. We will meet twice a week, then weekly as we include other areas of our city and expand our efforts.

As you can see, two years of hard, planned work has resulted in Indianapolis being at the forefront of data-driven government. We must continue to remember that crime and quality of life issues will never be solved by government alone. It also has to be apparent that citizens only have one Department of Public Safety. If we are not receptive, willing, and dedicated, a citizen can have a sense of hopelessness. We will not allow this to happen.

As a nation and a city, we cannot be apathetic about crime and quality of life in any area. In Indianapolis we have used data and our community conversations to understand the immense challenges that many of our neighbors and friends confront on a daily basis. Income inequality, educational challenges, vacant housing, and the breakdown of the social fabric that made our country great should be a concern to all of us.

When you take a moment to review the data it is easy to feel like the task is too daunting. Well, I have to say that I am optimistic. Indianapolis has risen to the occasion when face with challenges before. Once again, citizens, non-profits, and the faith-based community are responding in ways never imagined. The response is uniquely Indianapolis.

Thank you for your service and commitment to the citizens we serve.

God Bless and keep you safe // Troy

DPS outlines goals, objectives for focus areas

The Department of Public Safety (DPS) on January 13 outlined the specific, measurable 2015 goals and objectives it has defined for the six DPS focus areas.

All eight DPS divisions were tasked with determining their respective goals and objectives for the six areas, identified by intersections at West 16th Street and North Tibbs Avenue, West 29th Street and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, West 34th Street and North Illinois Street, East 38th Street and North Sherman Drive, East New York Street and North Sherman Drive, and East 42nd Street and North Post Road.

The success measures, which point toward an overall mission of crime reduction and quality of life improvement, were presented to the public today during the first DPS focus area meeting of 2015. Those divisions include Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department (IMPD), Indianapolis Fire Department (IFD), Indianapolis Emergency Medical Service (IEMS), Division of Homeland Security (DHS), Animal Care and Control (ACC), Public Safety Communications (PSC), Mayor's Office of Re-Entry and Citizens Police Complaint Office.

"One of the things I did when I arrived in 2012 was establish business practices within each of our divisions, including the implementation of measurable goals and objectives," said Public Safety Director Troy Riggs. "It's important for us to apply those same principles to our focus area initiative so we can evaluate our progress for our residents and be held accountable by those who we are trying to help."

A complete list of the 2015 focus area goals and objectives is available by [clicking here](#). Highlights from each division include:

- **IMPD:** Reduce violent crime in focus areas by five percent.
- **IFD:** Reduce number of structure fires in focus areas by 5 percent and reduce civilian fire fatalities by 10 percent.
- **IEMS:** Reduction in the number of overdose deaths in focus areas.
- **DHS:** Establish a data analysis unit in conjunction with MESH.
- **ACC:** Hold a micro-chipping event in each of the focus areas with the goal of providing free dog micro-chipping.
- **PSC:** Determine three-year monthly history for calls to 911 (emergency), 3811 (non-emergency), and 211 (service providers). Show monthly decrease in 911 calls shifting to 3811 and 211.
- **Mayor's Office of Re-Entry:** Identify 100 individuals who are most at-risk to re-offend in the six focus areas and engage them in wrap-around services.
- **Citizens Police Complaint Office:** Identify number of complaints received in focus areas and create contact response card with goal of no re-occurrence.

2015 DPS data will be reviewed in early 2016 to determine success rates in the six areas.

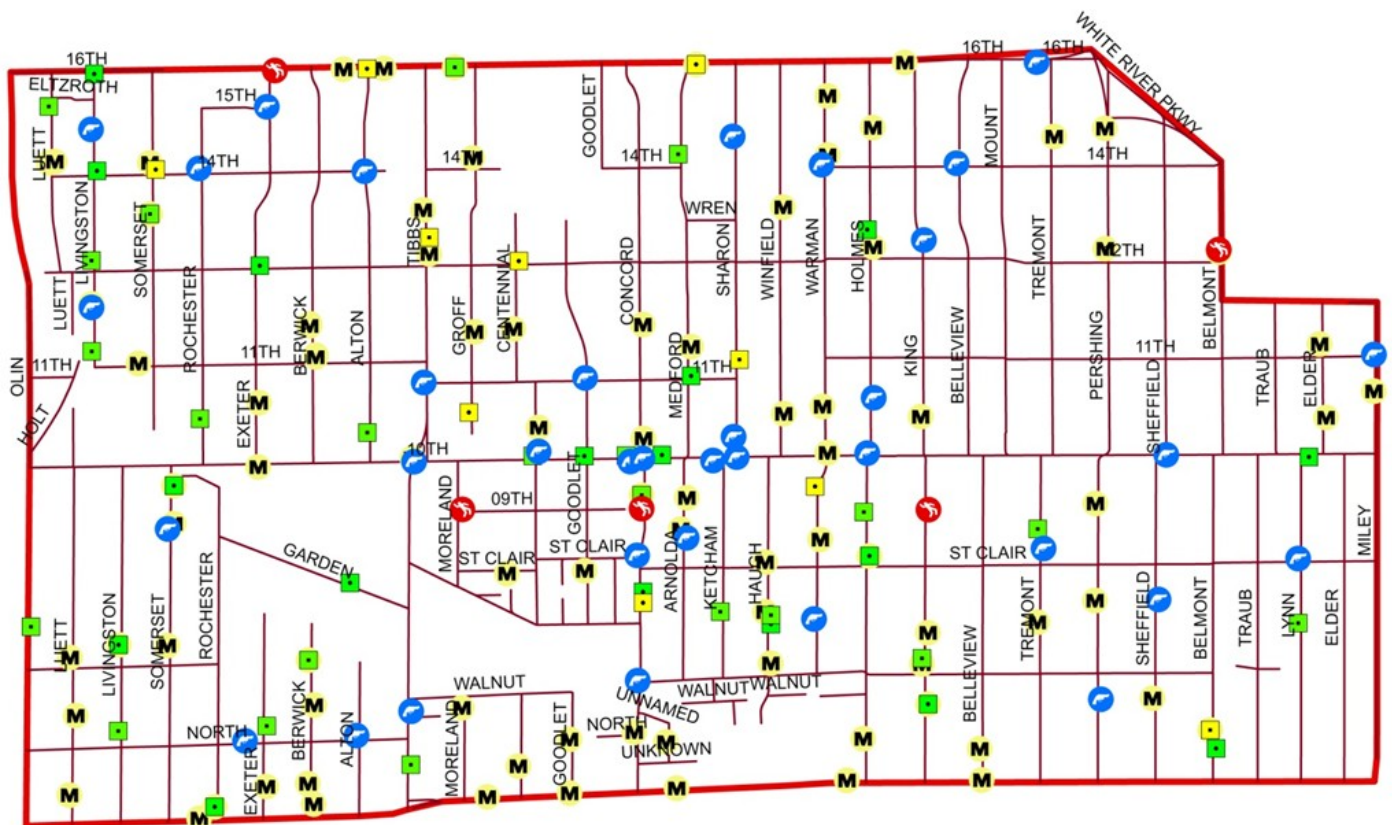


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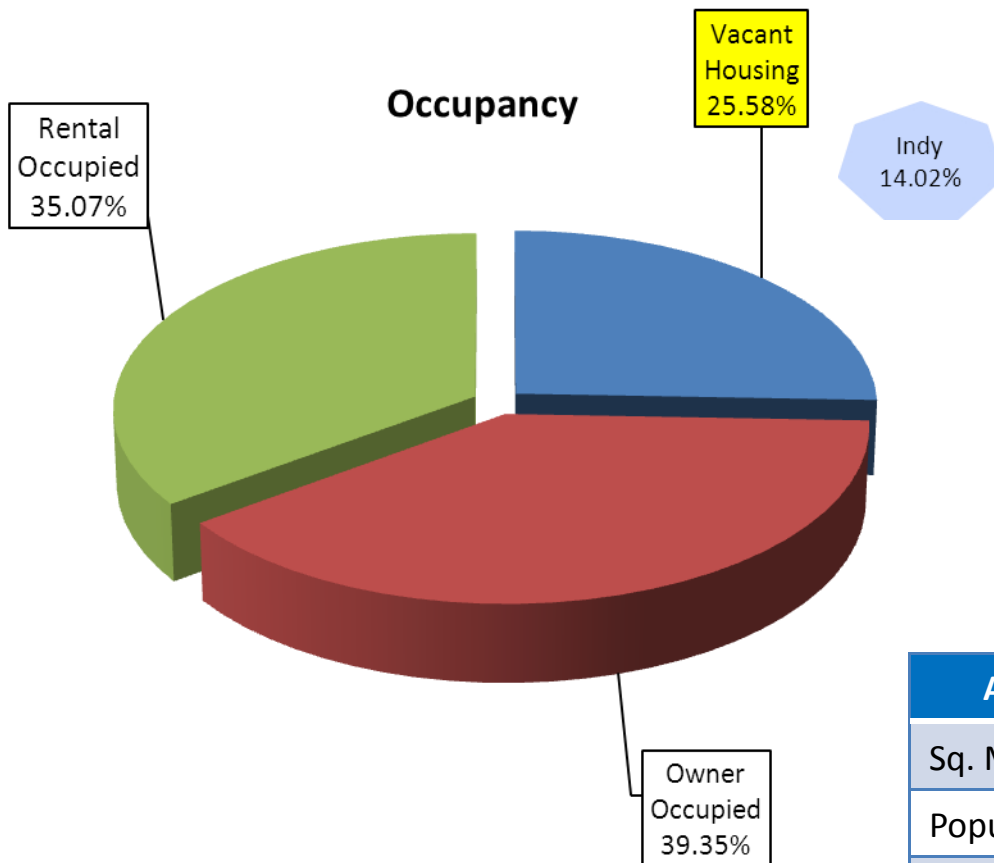
Focus Area: 16th and Tibbs

| Per 1000 Population | | | | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|--------------------|----------------|-------------|-------------------|
| | Criminal Homicide | Non-Fatal Shooting | IEMS Over-dose | IEMS Mental | Calls for Service |
| Indianapolis | 0.23 | 0.87 | 2.24 | 7.12 | 934.9 |
| 16/Tibbs | 0.59 | 4.81 | 6.10 | 14.90 | 1,680.6 |
| % Variation | 152% | 454% | 173% | 109% | 80% |



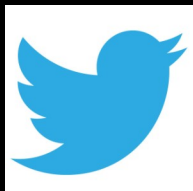
| Single Parent | 16st & Tibbs | Indy |
|--------------------------|--------------|-------|
| Single Female w/Children | 16.02% | 9.48% |
| Single Male w/Children | 5.38% | 2.35% |

Focus Area: 16th and Tibbs



| Area Compared to Total | | |
|------------------------|--------|------|
| Sq. Miles | 1.5 | 0.4% |
| Population | 8,523 | 0.9% |
| IEMS CFS | 2,054 | 1.8% |
| IFD CFS | 329 | 1.5% |
| IMPD CFS | 11,505 | 1.7% |
| ACC CFS | 436 | 2.3% |
| Total CFS | 14,324 | 1.7% |

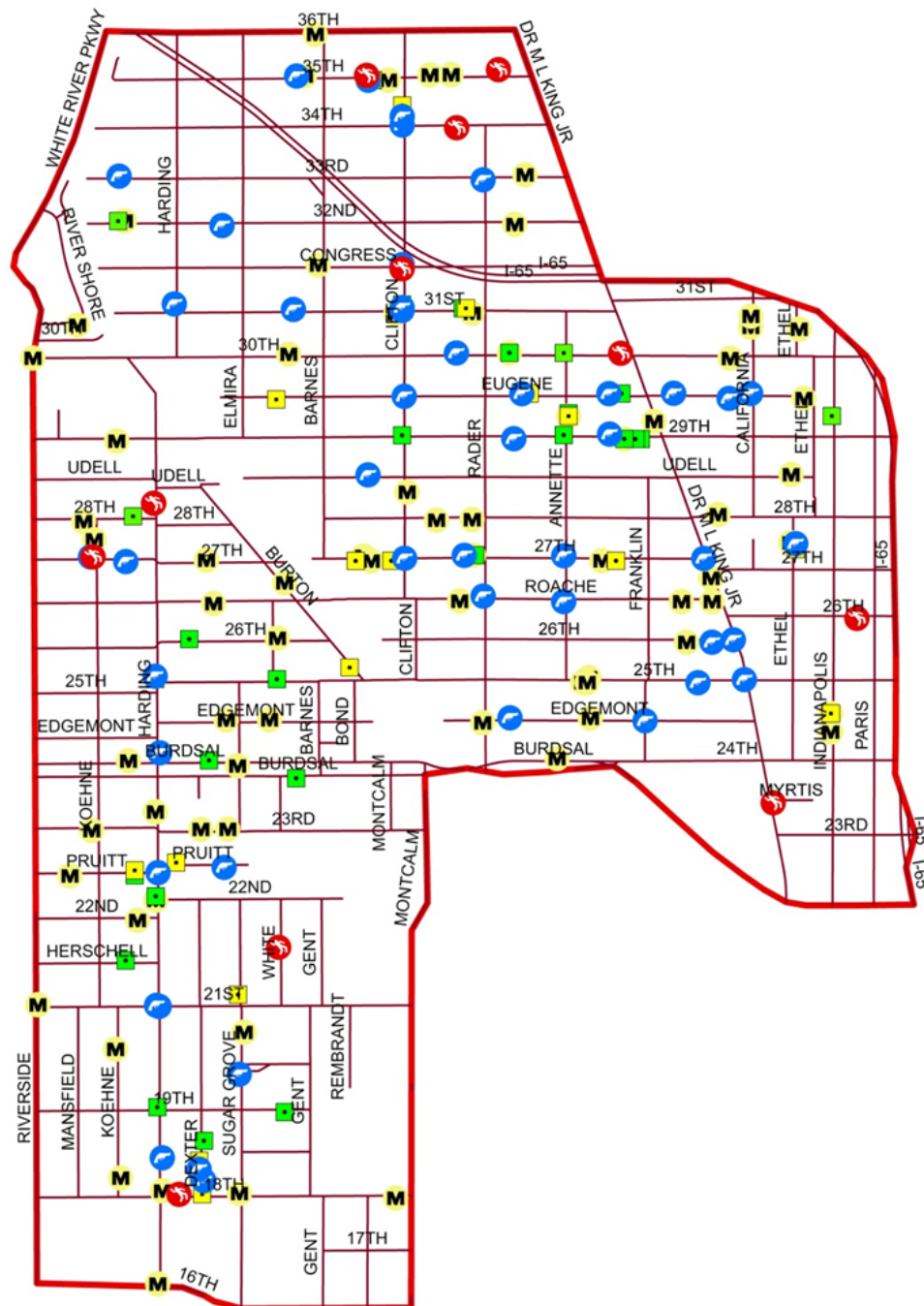
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Focus Area: 29th and Martin Luther King Jr.



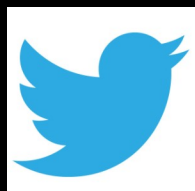
| Poverty Households – Population est. 6,685 | 29 th St & MLK | Indy |
|--|---------------------------|-------|
| Single and Families without Children | 18.29% | 15% |
| Single and Families with Children under 18 | 15.32% | 12.7% |

Focus Area: 29th and Martin Luther King Jr.

| Per 1000 Population | | | |
|---------------------|-------|---------|-------------|
| | Indy | 29/MLK | % Variation |
| Criminal Homicide | 0.23 | 1.89 | 712% |
| Non-Fatal Shooting | 0.87 | 7.84 | 804% |
| IEMS Overdose | 2.24 | 3.78 | 69% |
| IEMS Mental | 7.12 | 13.36 | 88% |
| Calls for Service | 934.9 | 1,891.2 | 102% |

| Area Compared to Total | | |
|------------------------|--------|------|
| Sq. Miles | 2 | 0.5% |
| Population | 6,685 | 0.8% |
| Medical CFS | 2,020 | 1.8% |
| Fire CFS | 409 | 1.8% |
| Police CFS | 10,203 | 1.5% |
| ACC CFS | 389 | 2.1% |
| Total CFS | 13,021 | 1.5% |

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Focus Area: 34th and Illinois



Area Compared to Total

| | | |
|-------------|-------|------|
| Sq. Miles | .5 | 0.1% |
| Population | 2,323 | 0.3% |
| Medical CFS | 1,321 | 1.2% |
| Fire CFS | 240 | 1.1% |
| Police CFS | 7,252 | 1.0% |
| ACC CFS | 174 | 0.9% |
| Total CFS | 8,987 | 1.1% |

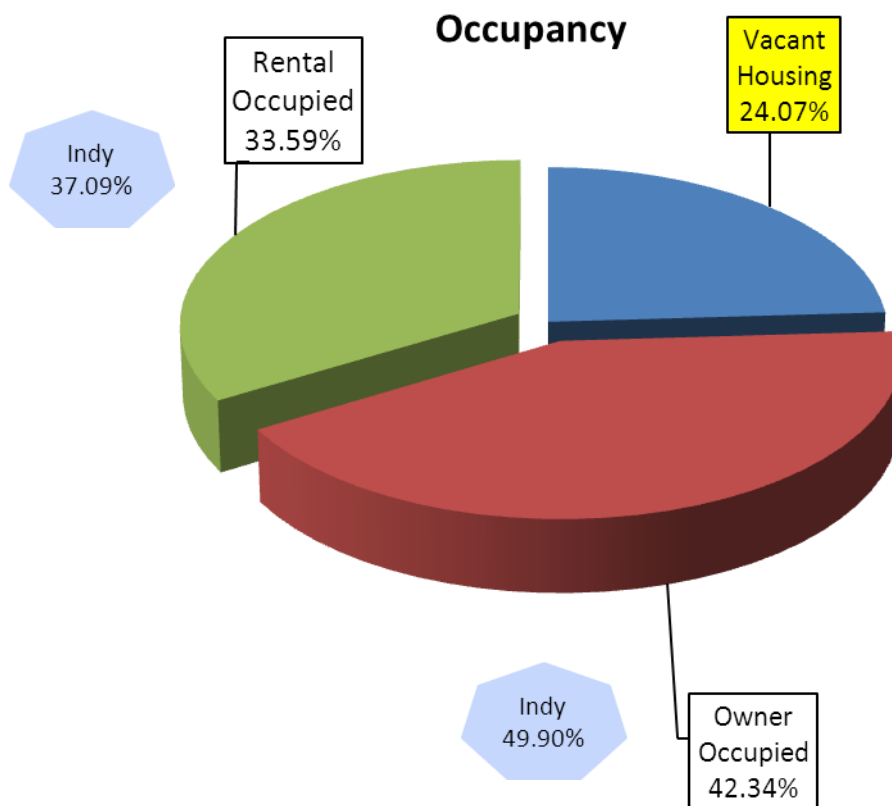
Per 1000 Population

| | Indy | 34/III | % Variation |
|--------------------|-------|---------|-------------|
| Criminal Homicide | 0.23 | 2.58 | 1,011% |
| Non-Fatal Shooting | 0.87 | 9.90 | 1,041% |
| IEMS Overdose | 2.24 | 6.03 | 169% |
| IEMS Mental | 7.12 | 52.95 | 644% |
| Calls for Service | 934.9 | 3,868.7 | 314% |

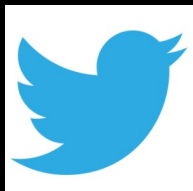
| Single Parent | 34 th & Illinois | Indy |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|-------|
| Single Female w/Children | 14.30% | 9.48% |
| Single Male w/Children | 10.77% | 2.35% |

Focus Area: 34th and Illinois

| Single Parent | 34 th & Illinois | Indy |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|-------|
| Single Female w/Children | 14.30% | 9.48% |
| Single Male w/Children | 10.77% | 2.35% |



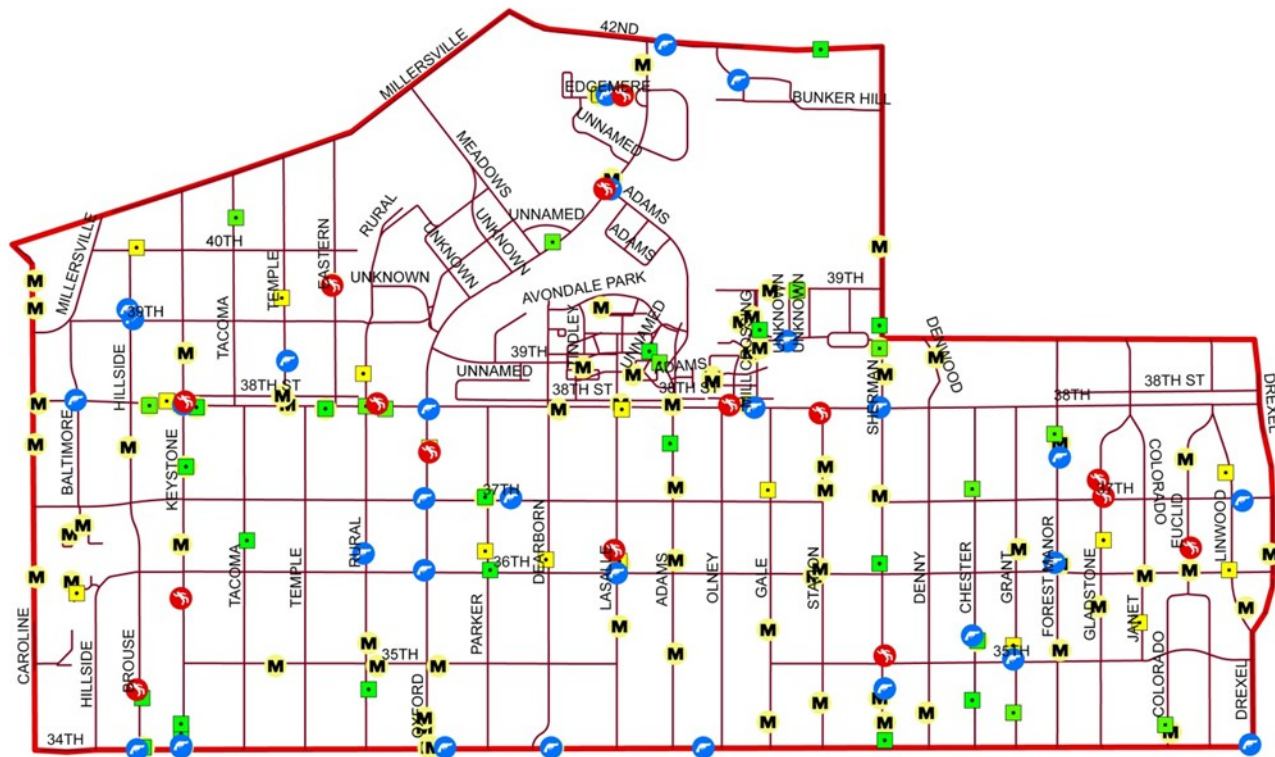
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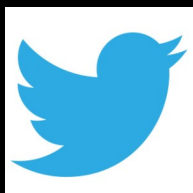


Focus Area: 38th and Sherman



| Per 1000 Population | | | | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|--------------------|---------------|-------------|-------------------|
| | Criminal Homicide | Non-Fatal Shooting | IEMS Overdose | IEMS Mental | Calls for Service |
| Indianapolis | 0.23 | 0.87 | 2.24 | 7.12 | 934.9 |
| 38/Sherman | 2.44 | 5.19 | 6.33 | 20.45 | 2,328.2 |
| % Variation | 948% | 499% | 183% | 187% | 149% |

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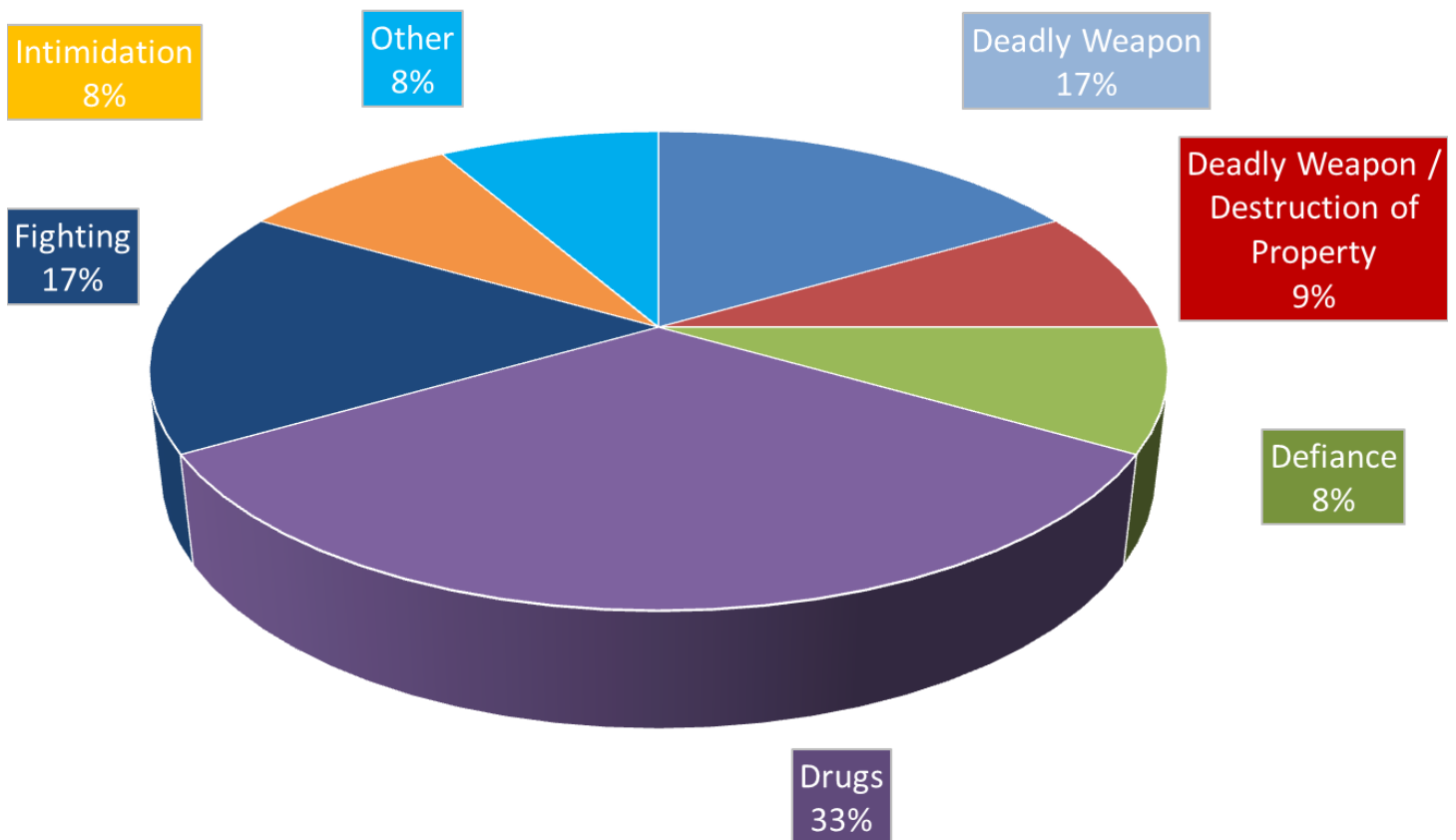


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Focus Area: 38th and Sherman

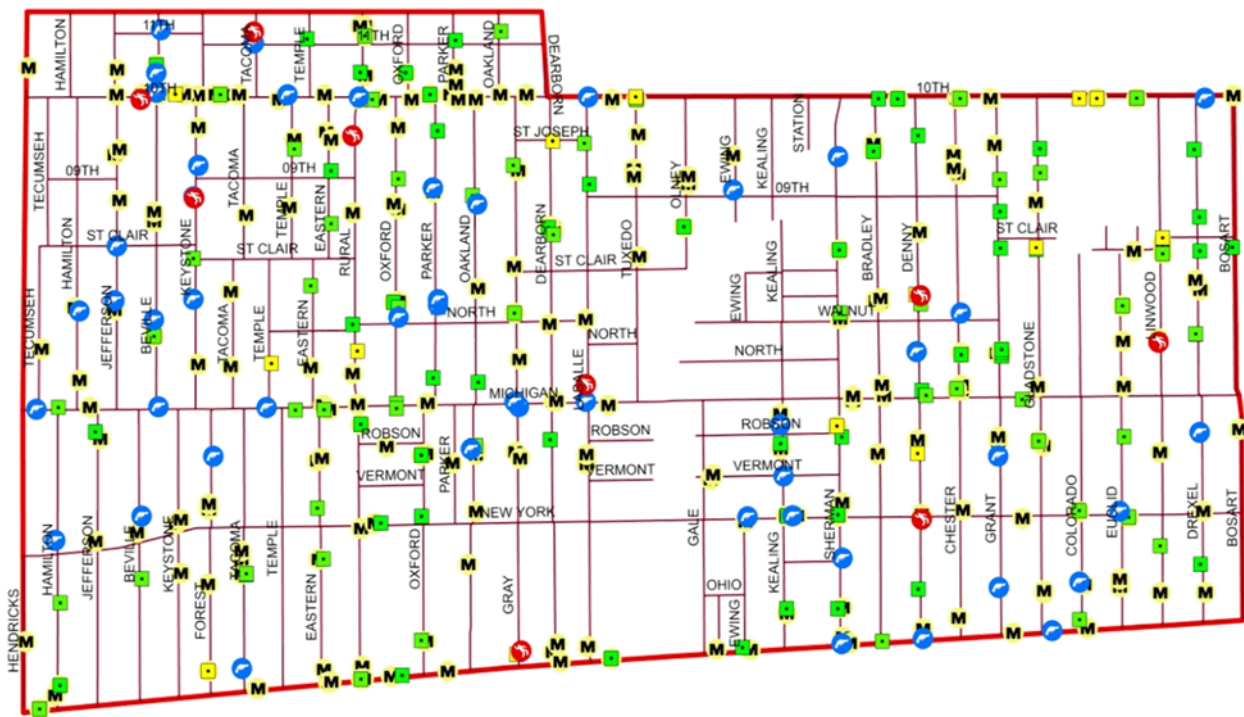
School Expulsions



| Single Parent | 38 th & Sherman | Indy |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|-------|
| Single Female w/Children | 17.12% | 9.48% |
| Single Male w/Children | 2.73% | 2.35% |

Focus Area: New York and Sherman

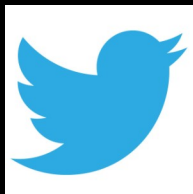
| Per 1000 Population | | | | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|--------------------|---------------|-------------|-------------------|
| | Criminal Homicide | Non-Fatal Shooting | IEMS Overdose | IEMS Mental | Calls for Service |
| Indianapolis | 0.23 | 0.87 | 2.24 | 7.12 | 934.9 |
| NY/Sherman | 0.73 | 4.31 | 9.91 | 30.06 | 2,762.6 |
| % Difference | 215% | 396% | 343% | 322% | 195% |



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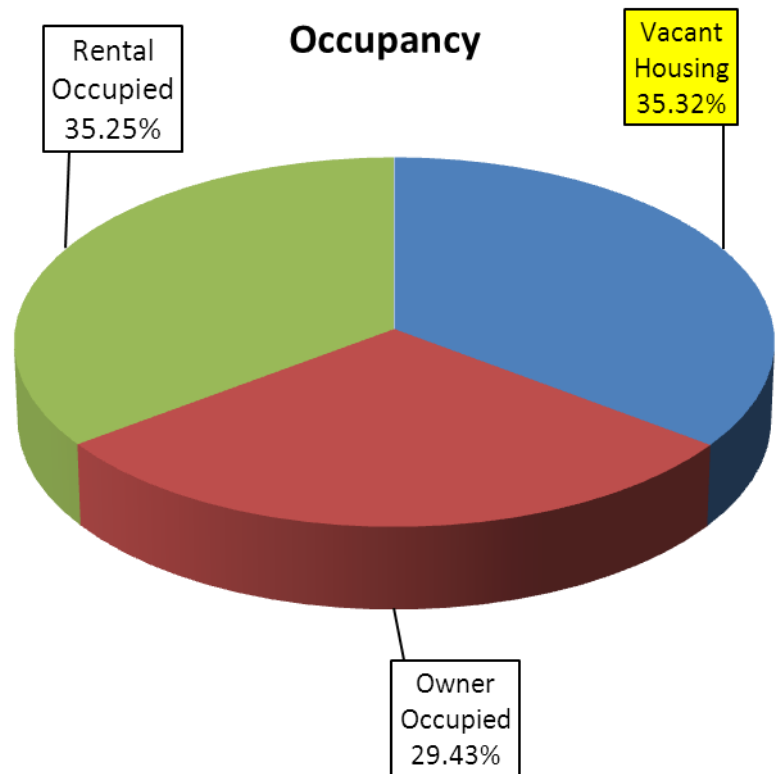


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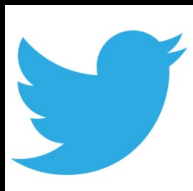
Focus Area: New York and Sherman

| Area Compared to Total | | |
|------------------------|--------|------|
| Sq. Miles | 1.75 | 0.5% |
| Population | 12,310 | 1.4% |
| Medical CFS | 5,600 | 5.0% |
| Fire CFS | 577 | 2.6% |
| Police CFS | 26,800 | 3.9% |
| ACC CFS | 1031 | 5.6% |
| Total CFS | 34,008 | 4.0% |



| Poverty Households – Population est. 8,523 | |
|--|--------|
| Single and Families without Children | 18.51% |
| Single and Families with Children under 18 | 20.26% |

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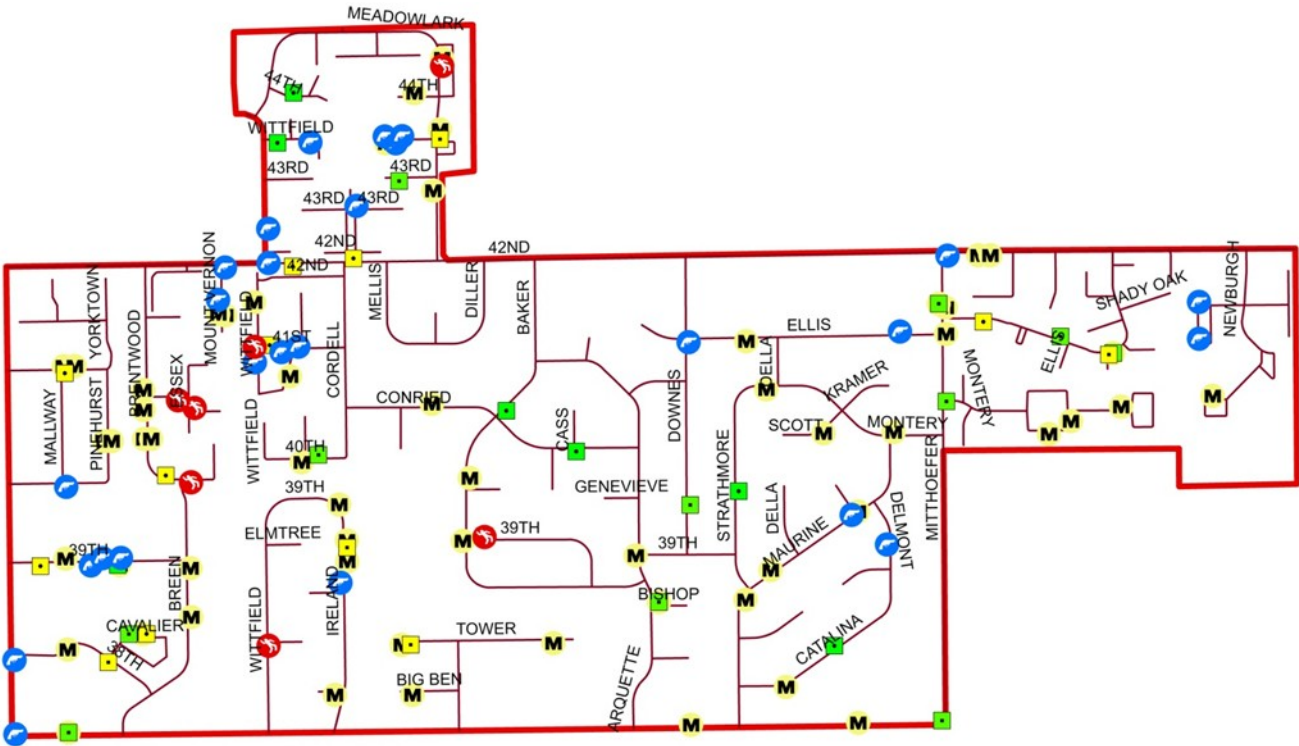


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Focus Area: 42nd and Post

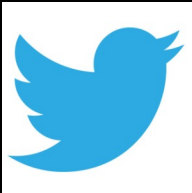
| Per 1000 Population | | | | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|--------------------|---------------|-------------|-------------------|
| | Criminal Homicide | Non-Fatal Shooting | IEMS Overdose | IEMS Mental | Calls for Service |
| Indianapolis | 0.23 | 0.87 | 2.24 | 7.12 | 934.9 |
| 42/Post | 1.47 | 4.74 | 3.27 | 12.09 | 1,472.1 |
| % Variation | 533% | 446% | 46% | 70% | 57% |



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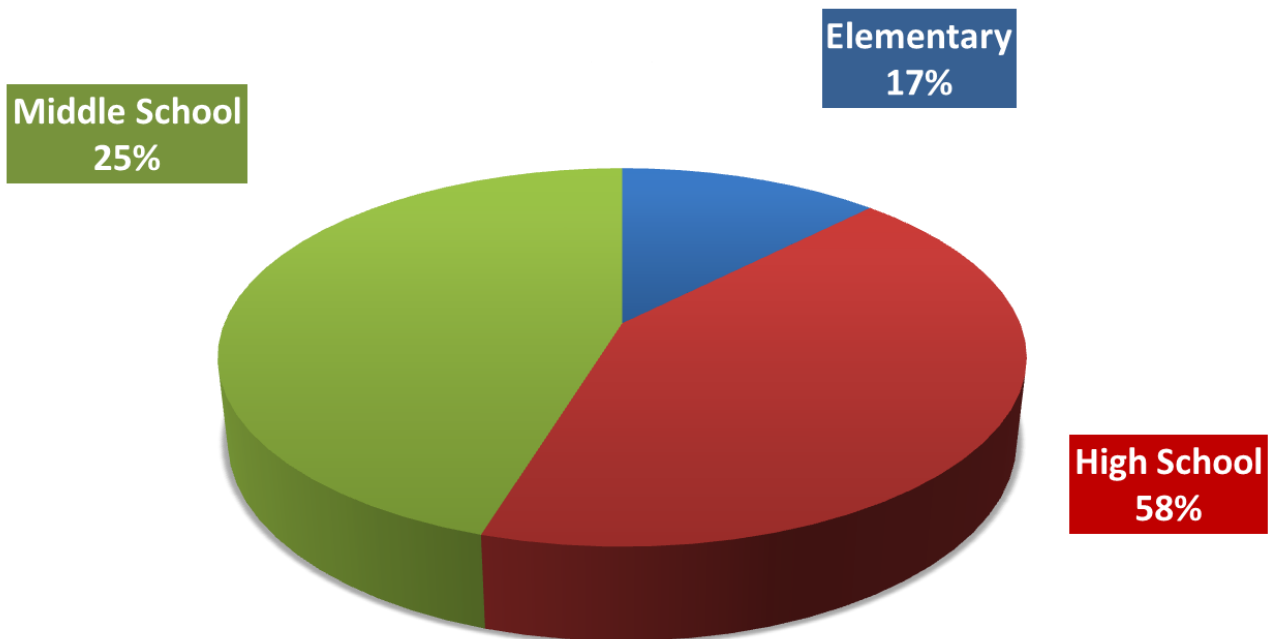


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Focus Area: 42nd and Post

School Expulsions



Area Compared to Total

| | | |
|-------------|-------|------|
| Sq. Miles | .75 | 0.2% |
| Population | 6,119 | 0.7% |
| Medical CFS | 1,496 | 1.3% |
| Fire CFS | 133 | 0.6% |
| Police CFS | 7,123 | 1.0% |
| ACC CFS | 256 | 1.4% |
| Total CFS | 9,008 | 1.1% |

Poverty Households – Population est. 8,523

| | |
|--|--------|
| Single and Families without Children | 18.25% |
| Single and Families with Children under 18 | 19.69% |

| Single Parent | 42 nd Street and Post | Indy |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------|-------|
| Single Female w/Children | 26.55% | 9.48% |
| Single Male w/Children | 3.01% | 2.35% |

Vacant housing a high priority in focus area effort

City and community leaders have begun working to find solutions to battle root cause issues in the six DPS focus areas.

Mayor Greg Ballard and Public Safety Director Troy Riggs launched the new data-focused initiative Oct. 9 to bring long-term positive change to some of Indianapolis' most-challenged areas and vowed to work on issues common to all six areas including vacant housing and mental illness.

Team meetings began in October and will continue throughout 2015.

Vacant housing

The Department of Code Enforcement anchored the initial meeting and offered a deeper look at the realities that reduce the quality of life for residents in all six areas including vacant housing, trash, high weeds and grass, and abandoned vehicles. In all, more than 12,000 code violations have been reported in the focus areas since Jan. 1, 2013.

"Improving the quality of life is an effort in which we all can take ownership," said Department of Code Enforcement Director Manual Mendez. "The attention given to our designated focus areas will increase collaboration and partnerships within the community and abroad, as we work to make our neighborhoods safer and more attractive places to live."

Various community partners attended the meeting and are looking for ways to partner with the City on the effort.

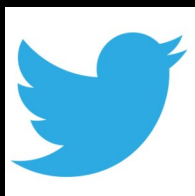
"Our work has only begun, and there is a tremendous amount to do, but the level of community support for this effort is energizing," said Riggs. "We continue to hear from more and more community partners that understand the need and want to do whatever they can to help our citizens and neighbors who live and work in these areas."

Each year the City's Department of Metropolitan Development (DMD) works to develop the Indianapolis community through the deployment of resources and strategies, and that effort includes a battle to reduce the number of abandoned properties throughout the city. During the DPS focus area meeting held Dec. 9, DMD discussed various funding for Federal programs that it distributes for property redevelopment, what properties the City has available for purchase, and its continued neighborhood redevelopment strategies. Additionally, DMD briefed those in attendance on a number of the programs available for services to individuals.

"Abandoned housing is a complex problem," said DMD Deputy Director Jeff Roeder. "We're excited about discussions that bring more people to the table to address a problem in our neighborhoods."



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Team working to address issue of mental illness

The challenge of mental illness looms large in the six focus areas identified by the Department of Public Safety (DPS).

The same challenge exists inside the Marion County Jail.

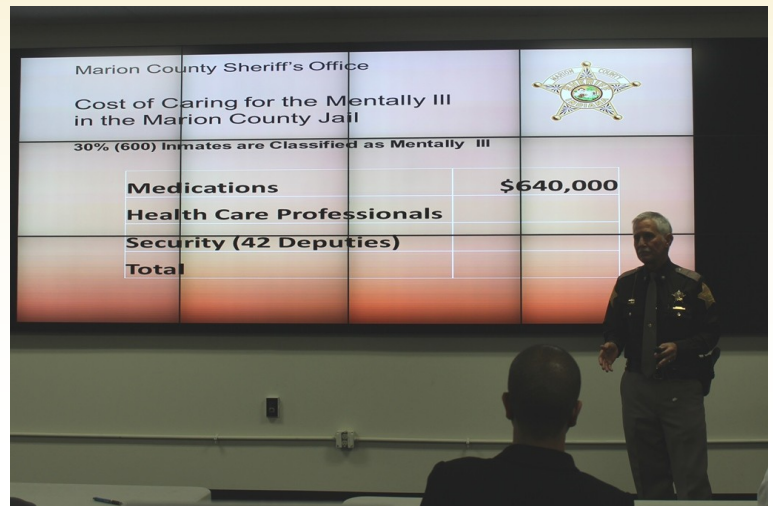
Approximately 30 percent of the 2,300 inmates housed each day at the Marion County Jail are classified as mentally ill, according to the Marion County Sheriff's Office (MCSO). Treatment for those inmates is vital but costly and finding a long-term solution to the problem is critical.

"On any given day, the Marion County Jail houses 600 individuals who are suffering from various degrees of mental illness," said MCSO Lt. Colonel Louis Dezelen, who is chairing a mental illness engagement team for DPS.

"The Sheriff has become the mental health caretaker for Marion County. We believe that these individuals should receive proper care in a true health care facility. We are working to make the community aware that we are desperately in need of proper facilities for the care of our mentally-ill population."

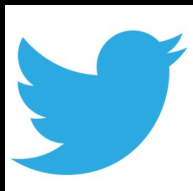
A review of DPS data from 2013 and 2014 uncovered a similar but community-based mental health issue within the six focus areas. An average of the data indicated a 239 percent greater likelihood of Indianapolis EMS responding to a mental illness emergency call in one of the areas, identified by intersections at West 16th Street and North Tibbs Avenue, West 29th Street and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, West 34th Street and North Illinois Street, East 38th Street and North Sherman Drive, East New York Street and North Sherman Drive, and East 42nd Street and North Post Road.

"Mental illness is one of the most important and difficult root-cause issues we must confront as a community for the benefit of those who are impacted by it," said Director of Public Safety Troy Riggs.



Approximately 30 percent of the 2,300 inmates housed each day at the Marion County Jail are classified as mentally ill. A review of DPS data from 2013 and 2014 uncovered a similar but community-based mental health issue within the six focus areas. An average of the data indicated a 239 percent greater likelihood of Indianapolis EMS responding to a mental illness emergency call in one of the areas.

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